

# LABOR CLARION

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## Hope for Preservation of Present Capitalistic System Lies Through "a General, Compulsory Raising of Wages"

**T**HE only road to industrial recovery is through "a general, organized, compulsory raising of wages." With this challenging statement Edward A. Filene, president of William Filene's Sons Company of Boston, takes issue with President Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., of General Motors, and other industrial leaders. Sloan in a recent address specifically urged that lower wages are the only road to recovery.

The wage raise must be sufficient, Filene says, "to enable the masses to buy and use the products of mass production." This is the only way, he says, "we can ever hope to stimulate the capital goods industries" and, "in fact, the only sane way we can hope to save the capitalist system."

Referring to the common view that low wages were brought about by the depression, Filene writes that "it is much closer to the truth to say that the depression was brought about by low wages."

Filene puts forth his views in an open letter to Matthew Woll, a vice-president of the American Federation of Labor. The letter follows:

Dear Mr. Woll: In answer to your recent letter I am very glad to send you my opinion on the relationship of high wages to recovery.

It is commonly believed, and believed even by some labor leaders, that low wages were brought about by the depression. It is much closer to the truth to say that the depression was brought about by low wages.

I do not mean that that was the only cause. I mean that it was the basic cause, and a cause which complicated all the other causes. After all the causes have been duly analyzed, it still remains clear that American business slumped because we could not sell what we were producing; and if wages generally had been high enough we would have had no such difficulty.

### High Wages Would Have Prevented Panic

It may be said in answer to this that if wages had been much higher than they were the wage-earner would not necessarily have bought more goods but would merely have hastened the depression by buying more stocks in that never-to-be-forgotten bull market. I have frequently pointed out myself that millions of workers were participating at the time in that nation-wide spree of speculation; and had they bought goods with their money instead of gambling with it, or even putting it in the banks where it would ultimately be invested in capitalizing production, the industries in which they were employed would have kept

going and they would not have lost their jobs, at least as soon as they did.

I still stick, however, to my original statement—that if wages had been high enough we would have had no difficulty in finding an ample market for our machine products; for under the circumstances wages could not have been high enough; and if business had been organized for that purpose we would have had no such bull market.

The bull market was due basically to our general ignorance of the industrial crisis at which we had arrived, particularly our ignorance of the meaning of mass production. If we had understood the real significance of mass production we would have known that it necessitated a mass market, and that some way would have to be devised, therefore, by which the masses could be enabled to buy its products.

### An Impossible "New Era"

In a vague and bewildered way, to be sure, many did sense this. They spoke of a "new era" in which the masses presumably might become investors and live on their money instead of living by work. It was assuredly a "new era," only there never could be any such era as that. When it was discovered, however, that the American people could not get rich by selling stocks to one another many decided that they must have been dreaming and that there never had been and never could be any "new era."

President Hoover had more sense. He realized when the bull market collapsed that everything depended now on the masses holding their jobs. Our machinery, he perceived, was all geared up to produce so much that, to keep the machine going, much would have to be bought. He realized, moreover, that there were not a sufficient number of rich people to buy the products of those machines, and that these products would have to be sold to working people if they were to be sold at all; and this, he saw, made it imperative that the workers should "continue" to get high wages.

### Low Wages Nullified Hoover Plan

The error in that was that wages were low—very low, in relation to our ability to produce, which is the only scientific way by which wages can be measured. President Hoover, nevertheless, did something that no other President had ever thought of doing before. He called in all the great industrialists in the country and made them promise that they would keep wages up.

These promises were almost uniformly broken, but it would be wholly unfair to blame President Hoover for that. When the whole situation is analyzed it may even seem unfair to blame the promise-breakers, any more, at least, than we would blame folks for becoming seasick after they had given their word of honor that they would not do any such thing. These leaders of industry were not only sincere but they saw the logic of the President's request. They couldn't help seeing

it. They were, in the main, our mass-producers; and they knew, if wages were reduced, that the masses could not buy their products.

They doubtless did not realize that the masses could not buy those products in sufficient volume even if the existing wage scale had been maintained. They did not know that even the existing wage scale was too low; but they could see that they would have a far better chance of selling their output if wages were kept up than they would have if the purchasing power of the masses were seriously reduced.

There were some people in business, of course, who had no social understanding. They were in business largely from force of habit. When they got orders they ran their factories; when orders stopped they shut down. They even went so far as to try to get orders here and there, but the why and wherefore of good or bad business conditions was beyond their comprehension. This, however, could not be said of the great business leaders who agreed by "concerted action" to keep the wage scale up.

### Flaw in Business Reasoning

Most of them agreed, moreover, to keep employment up by undertaking extensions at this particular time. This new construction work, which would make their industries still more productive, would cost hundreds of millions of dollars; but if it kept people employed, they thought, and kept wages from falling, it would prove to be a good investment in the end. Which was, all in all, pretty good reasoning, the only trouble with it being that it wasn't good enough.

The flaw in this reasoning was, of course, that it contemplated still further expansion of our capacity to produce at a time when the great necessity was for more buying of consumer goods, and at a time when any further capital development could not in itself bring about a sufficient increase in such buying.

That this depression was different from all previous depressions is now quite generally conceded. Conceding this, however, will do little good unless we understand wherein it has been different. There has been no change in basic economic law. There has been no change in human nature. The development of mass production, however, brought about a definite change in our economic set-up so that policies which had formerly proved successful became suddenly unworkable.

### Masses Must "Consume Abundantly"

Up to a certain point the needs of business may be satisfied if the well-to-do purchase more luxuries. When industry reaches a more productive stage we may achieve a sufficiently large market to suit the needs of business by employing more workers on great new projects, depending on the almost inevitable raise in wages which will follow such large-scale developments to provide the

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## Sensible Arguments Of Liberal Senators For Prevailing Wage

For the second time in a few days labor has been successful in winning approval for the McCarran amendment to the administration's \$4,880,000,000 relief bill. The amendment provides for payment of the prevailing wage rates on government projects authorized under the relief measure.

The powerful appropriations committee of the Senate originally included the amendment in the bill, in the face of determined opposition by Chairman Carter Glass, who echoed the sentiments of President Roosevelt. Later Senator McAdoo of California, who had voted for the amendment, moved a reconsideration, and with the aid of other senators who previously had voted for it, the committee reversed its decision.

When the amendment came up in the Senate on Thursday of last week with the open assertion that the President would veto the measure should the amendment be adopted, with an eloquent last-minute plea urging its defeat by Senator Glass, and after the reading of a letter from the President giving assurance that wage scales in private industry would not be permitted to be lowered because of the \$50 a month "security wage" contemplated for relief workers, the administration and its supporters were startled by the adoption of the "prevailing wage" by a vote of 44 to 43.

"During consideration of the measure American Federation of Labor representatives brought their powerful influence to bear for the amendment," says the Associated Press report.

After the day's session Glass said as far as he knew there was no move to reconsider the vote and he did not know that there would be one. Opposing Senators, however, held hope that the amendment would be eliminated when the measure is sent to conference with the House.

### Senators Champion Measure

Payment of the prevailing rate of wages under the \$4,880,000,000 work relief bill was vigorously championed by Senators Wagner, Couzens and others during Senate debate on the McCarran amendment to the measure. The amendment would require payment of the prevailing rate of wages.

Calling the relief bill "the next step in the Recovery program," Wagner condemned the wage clause written in by the Senate appropriations committee.

"Common business judgment tells us that such a proposal is absolutely impossible of execution,"

Wagner said, after noting the provision that the President may increase the \$50 security wage if it threatens the private wage structure.

"The whole program is designed for completion in one year. It would take from three to six months for the effects of a lower scale to manifest itself in private industry, to be brought to the attention of the President, to be investigated, and to bring about revision."

The New Yorker declared he could not sit idly by and see the inauguration of a policy in the name of relief that might drag down the whole private wage structures of the country.

### Warns of "Exploiter"

"Bitter experience has taught us that wages seek the lowest level, and that even those who recognize the wisdom and the justice of fair play cannot withstand the unfair competition of the private exploiter," said Wagner. "If the public projects under this resolution set rates of pay for full time work below those prevailing elsewhere, private industry will find this lower level with the certainty that the river finds the sea."

"The time has passed when we can dodge responsibility by calling everything relief and applying the standards of relief. If we are satisfied with relief alone we shall never achieve economic reconstruction. If those on public works are treated on a relief basis every objective of public works will be defeated. Morale will be lowered, not restored; wages will go down, not up; purchasing power will shrink, not expand; business will be demoralized, not stabilized. The wage policy of the 'new deal' will be thrown into reverse, and the business machine will be driven back into the deepest trough of depression."

### Protection For Labor Urged

Senator Couzens spoke in support of a prevailing wage provision and quoted from N.R.A. codes for the electrical, building, cement and iron and steel industries. He said these industries would profit most from enactment of the \$4,880,000,000 bill. These industries, he said, are organized while the workers who will be employed are not.

"If it is desirable under the recovery act to protect the profits and stabilize the cost of cement, and to fix wages and maximum hours, there can be no justification for ignoring the giving of protection to the persons who are going to be employed under this act," he said.

## Only Hope for Preservation of Present Capitalistic System

(Continued from Page One)

necessary market for consumer goods. With the coming of mass production, however, the masses must be empowered to consume abundantly or the whole machinery of mass production must halt. That is, unless there is war, which is to say, the organized destruction of all human values.

Even now a sufficiently big war might stimulate American business into the semblance of prosperity. In the end, of course, it must turn out even less profitable than the last one; for to seek prosperity through war is like trying to get warm by burning down our house. It's a sound enough idea if one isn't concerned with ultimate results. The only other way to achieve prosperity now is through a general, organized, compulsory raising of wages sufficient to enable the masses to buy and use the products of mass production.

This is the only sane way, incidentally—war being insane—by which we can ever again stimulate our capital goods industries. It is the only sane way, in fact, by which we can hope to preserve the capitalist system.

EDWARD A. FILENE.

## Strike Possibility In Auto Industry to Kill Company Union

"We plan to attack and wage relentless war on the company union," William Green, president of the A. F. of L., declared, in opening his speaking tour of automobile centers.

"It is the company's pet plaything. We hold it is unfair for either industry or government to force us to strike to get rid of it—but get rid of it we will!" Another significant statement was: "Since the automobile industry has thrown down the gauntlet, it is for labor to accept the challenge."

### Huge Crowds Attend Meetings

Huge crowds of automobile workers heard William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, deliver a challenge to the employers in the automobile industry during last week. Approximately 6000 workers jammed into the Metal Trades Auditorium in Cleveland, Ohio, and an equal number filled the Civic Auditorium in Toledo, Ohio, while in St. Louis over 3000 workers heard Green speak in the St. Louis Theater.

In each city the workers unanimously indorsed a resolution designating the American Federation of Labor as their duly accredited bargaining agency in the automobile industry. President Green was authorized to act as their duly chosen representative and he was requested to immediately proceed in requesting of the proper executives of the automobile industry a conference for the purpose of negotiating a mutually satisfactory working agreement relative to wages, hours and conditions of employment.

### Automobile Board Denounced

Both Green and F. J. Dillon, general organizer of the American Federation of Labor in the automobile industry, who introduced him, insisted that the Automobile Labor Board had proved an absolute failure and that "it must go if automobile workers are to obtain justice from the government." That the elections being held by this board are a farce is proved by the way in which the workers in each city have condemned them and unanimously chosen the American Federation of Labor as their bargaining agency. In the place of this board Green advocated that under Public Resolution 44 a new impartial board be set up embodying the same principles and powers as the National Labor Relations Board.

Employers who refuse to recognize the rights of their employees were severely criticized by President Green and he warned them that "if industrial strife results it will be because of the failure of the employer to concede to his employees rights and privileges which the employer seeks to utilize for his own benefit while denying the same rights and privileges to his own employees."

### Conference of Automobile Workers

The United Automobile Workers' Male Chorus, composed of twenty-five voices, went to Cleveland and Toledo from Detroit in a special car and sang at each of the meetings.

The National Council of the Automobile Workers' Unions convened in Detroit on February 23 for the purpose of laying general plans and formulating demands upon the employers of the industry. President Green's speech was broadcast over the N. B. C. network.

You cannot possibly have a broader basis for any government than that which includes all the people, with all their rights in their hands, and with an equal power to maintain their rights.—Garrison.



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## Green Makes Charges Of Misrepresentation On 'Prevailing Wage'

The President's \$4,880,000,000 work relief bill, amended by the Senate by including the provision that the prevailing rate of wages shall be paid on all work undertaken under its authorization, reposes in the Senate Finance Committee, where it probably will remain while the administration lines up its forces in a determined effort to have action on the amendment reconsidered.

Meanwhile, despite desperate efforts to work up sentiment throughout the country against the McCarran amendment, its supporters are reported to be standing firm.

As the Senate debate was resumed William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, said there would be "no compromise" on the McCarran amendment.

### Charges Misrepresentation

He said Senator Robinson had misrepresented the situation.

"We do not object to a limitation on the amount a worker on a federal project may earn during a given period, a month for instance," said Green. "But we ask that he be paid the hourly rate that prevails in his community for the type of work he does."

The administration was reported by officials to have planned to pay a maximum of \$50 a month to the workers taken from the relief rolls.

Senator Robinson had told the Senate, after he had been charged by Senator Hastings of Delaware with "deceiving the public" in contending the wage amendment would increase cost of the work program by \$2,340,000,000, that the public works program would never be "consummated" as long as that amendment remained.

### Administration Spokesman's Views

"There is sound reason for the distinction the President makes between prevailing wages and wages to be paid in work relief," Robinson asserted.

"The object after all is to get rid not only of destitution relief but all forms of work relief—to take the government as soon as possible out of the business of giving employment to those out of work.

"The only way to do it is to make private employment more attractive than federal employment. You are proposing exactly the reverse and in some instances to make federal employment more attractive."

### Labor's Friends Stand Firm

Senators McCarran of Nevada, author of the prevailing wage amendment; Adams of Colorado and Wheeler of Montana insisted the prevailing wage should be required.

With Hastings, they contended the hours or days of work could be reduced and still hire the entire 3,500,000 at prevailing wages.

Referring to Robinson's statement that the amendment would necessitate increasing the appropriation to \$7,220,000,000, the Delaware senator said:

"I contend no such authorization is needed and I want to protest all effort to deceive the public which is now supposed to so express itself as to cause the senators to change their minds."

### Roosevelt May Make Radio Appeal

There was no indication President Roosevelt would take a hand in the legislative crisis immediately, although some senators said they would not be surprised if he did take the issue to the country in a radio appeal.

Reiteration by Senator Robinson, the majority leader, that the President and those supporting

him had "no intention of breaking down the private wage scale" and a second prediction by Speaker Byrnes that the "House will stand behind the President" apparently had little effect on those insisting upon retention of the wage clause.

### REMODELING HOMES

Owners of thousands of California homes are taking advantage of the Federal Housing Act to remodel, repair and bring their homes up to date this spring, according to the Pacific Coast Electrical Bureau. Since the Housing Act makes loans for electrical wiring, and as a house can be wired with little disturbance, most of these home owners are taking this opportunity to modernize their homes by new wire installation. The bureau reports many requests from all parts of the Pacific Coast for information regarding the requirements of a properly wired home.

## Senator Wagner Asks For Maintenance of American Standards

United States Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York is among those who have made strong pleas in behalf of a prevailing wage clause in the President's work relief bill. Among the statements by Senator Wagner, speaking on the floor of the Senate, was the following:

"In our desire to preserve private interest rates we have gone to what I consider the unnecessary and unwarranted length of charging 4 per cent interest on our loans for low-cost housing. No one has entertained the proposition to limit the personal profits that result from public spending. Why then this disregard for the wage standards that have been built up by ceaseless years of unremitting toil? Is the worker an outcast in our society? Has he not borne the main shock of the depression with stoic fortitude and with unflinching faith in American institutions? Does he not shoulder the main burden of taxation? Does he not go to the front line in the hour of national danger? Does he not pour his strength into the creation of all our wealth? What kind of recovery can we build by assaulting his standards of life?

"Penny wisdom and pound foolishness has not been the policy of the 'new deal.' Let us go onward without retreat to the goals that we set for the American people."

## Code Planning Board To Settle Disputes In Building Trades

All building trades unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor have agreed to settle jurisdictional disputes through the Planning and Adjustment Board of the construction industry code, George L. Berry, division administrator of the N.R.A., announces.

The agreement is hailed in Washington as a big forward step in the building industry and as offering increased hope for settlement of the controversy between the building trades unions affiliated with the Building Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor.

In announcing the agreement, Administrator Berry, who is president of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union of North America, emphasized its importance to the great building industry, on which industrial recovery so largely depends. He pointed out that jurisdictional disputes have frequently resulted in loss of time, reacting to the disadvantage of labor, capital and the public and causing great monetary and property losses. Major Berry said:

"The Planning and Adjustment Board, made up of an equal number of contractors and representatives of building trades organizations, with a disinterested chairman, appointed by the President, offers the finest facilities for the rehabilitation of the building industry and the enlarged plans of the President for public works that has yet been conceived.

"There is no good reason why all the problems and differences as between government, private industry and labor should not be adequately and fairly solved within the sphere of the authority as well as the possibilities of the Planning and Adjustment Board. The building trades unions of the American Federation of Labor are to be congratulated upon the definite commitments that have been made by signature and seal to the machinery set up in the Planning and Adjustment Board for the settlement of jurisdictional disputes."

Twenty-two unions signed the agreement.

Business is tickled pink to be in the black.—Atlanta "Constitution."

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### The McCarran Amendment

"Support the President!" yells the blatant chain newspaper publisher who has denounced every move made in the administration's Recovery plan up to now. Taking time off from pursuit of the "red" bogey, he devotes his columns to tirades against the McCarran amendment, and to designating its supporters as demagogues.

Following the program pursued in the fight against the world court, every senator and representative in Congress is being bombarded with letters and telegrams demanding that they vote as Hearst dictates and threatening dire consequences if they fail to follow his leadership.

But this is not the worst feature of the Hearst campaign. Again, as in the world court struggle, misrepresentation is being resorted to to gain votes against the proposal to pay the prevailing wage on government relief work. One of the Hearst writers (they have felt the crack of the whip) suggests the following as a proper form of letter to dispatch to senators:

"I think the people's money should be used to help as many of the people as possible and I ask you to vote to support the President's plan to pay \$50 a month to as many as possible, not three or four hundred dollars to a chosen few. I wish to add that at the next election I shall vote against any senator that votes the other way."

Although President William Green of the American Federation of Labor and many of the senators who voted for the McCarran amendment have repeatedly asserted that the object of the amendment is to maintain the wage standards prevailing in private industry, to prevent reduction of wages to conform to the proposed \$50 a month set up in the work relief bill, and that there is nothing in the amendment to prevent limiting workers' earnings to \$50 a month so long as the prevailing hourly wage is paid, nothing of this has appeared in the Hearst papers. Even the reports of the congressional proceedings in which this phase of the amendment was one of the chief subjects of debate was pruned so that they contained no hint of the motives of the proponents of the amendment.

The intimation that under the amendment a chosen few might be paid three or four hundred dollars a month is typical of Hearst tactics.

Labor's answer to this despicable campaign should be to deluge the members of Congress with letters and telegrams setting forth their side of the story, and to demand that American wage standards shall not be destroyed to please the wreckers comprised in the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and the National Association of Manufacturers.

### N.R.A. Should Be Extended

In his message to Congress urging extension of the life of the National Industrial Recovery Act for a period of two years President Roosevelt intimates that the solons may find it advisable to make changes in the trade practice, price-fixing and other agreements authorized by N.R.A. under the anti-trust exemption.

When the original bill was adopted, two years ago, the claim was made that it would permit the government to barter with industry for increased employment through maximum hours, minimum wages, prohibition of child labor and recognition of labor's right to bargain collectively, in return for exemption of business from the provisions of the anti-trust laws.

How generally this implied bargaining has been successful is matter of question, but the President's message contains a strict injunction that labor's gains shall be retained, and also leaves open the door for legislation to force further reductions in hours of labor, further collective bargaining safeguards and other benefits to labor.

The present act expires June 16, at which time the codes also will expire. Observers look for a battle of two or three months' duration as the finance committee of the Senate and the ways and means committee of the House wrangle over the drafting of their ideas into form. Administration advisers are even suggesting the possibility of a deadlock which may result in nothing more than a continuation of the present law unchanged.

Section 7-a, guaranteeing labor's right to organize for collective bargaining, is virtually certain to be continued in some form, but even this may be amended.

The related issues of monopoly, price-fixing by direct or indirect means, and protection of small business, are expected to be the big battleground.

### The Capitalistic Viewpoint

Millionaires who have fattened on government contracts for generations acquire a peculiar viewpoint. Eugene G. Grace, president of the Bethlehem Steel Company, testifying before a Senate committee, admitted that he had received bonuses from his company of \$12,282,000 in eighteen years, and that between 1917 and 1934 his company had made profits of \$44,000,000 after federal taxes were paid.

But he could see nothing wrong about a skilled mechanic being drafted in war time and receiving \$1.25 a day while capital was left to operate at a profit. "There is a difference," he said. "We should be fairly compensated for use of privately owned capital."

Grace said in answer to a question whether he would oppose a 100 per cent profits tax in time of war that "the company couldn't operate. It would ruin it."

"Wouldn't it ruin a man to be called from his job to work for \$1.25 a day and perhaps lose his life? Why should there be a difference in dealing with life and property?" he was asked. But he had no answer.

### For Progressive Inheritance Tax

No less a personage than the progressive Nebraska senator, George W. Norris, is convinced that if civilization is to be preserved redistribution of wealth is essential. He sees a national menace in the growing concentration of wealth in the hands of a few, and to combat this menace he advocates a progressive inheritance tax to be imposed by the federal government.

Addressing a gathering at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Norris said:

"Today there is little doubt in the minds of thinking people that the redistribution of wealth is a necessity if we wish to preserve our civilization. If we are to secure a permanent remedy for our difficulties as a people it is an absolute neces-

sity that this be one of the aims which a complete recovery must have in view."

Redistribution, as contemplated by a progressive inheritance tax, Norris explained, does not mean taking from one man and giving his property to another.

"It means," he said, "taking money from the estates of the very wealthy, where it can perform no real service for humanity, and giving it, in the form of all taxes, to all people, from which it was originally taken and under whose laws it was accumulated."

"Such a program would in a few generations relieve society entirely from the dangers which now threaten the very life of the nation. To a great extent it would relieve our country of pauperism and poverty. It would very materially help to feed the starving and clothe the naked."

### Supreme Court's Gold Ruling

Senator Carter Glass of Virginia, who regards himself as godfather of the Federal Reserve Bank, is not at all satisfied with the decision of the Supreme Court on the gold question. But like many others who have discussed the matter in the public prints, he has nothing constructive to offer. He contents himself with shouting in the Senate, "We are on a fiat currency."

Former President Hoover steps out of obscurity to announce that immediate resumption of gold payments by the United States and stabilization of the dollar at its present value would put more men to work out of the twelve million who still remain unemployed than any other single action.

But the ex-president does not impress Senator Connolly of Texas, who said that Hoover was seeking a return to the same system "which brought his administration tumbling in ruins about him."

And Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau, who should know quite a lot about monetary questions, jumps into the controversy to announce that he is "perfectly satisfied with the way our monetary policy has worked out during the last year," and sees no reason for changing it. The policy is, however, still on a day-to-day basis, and the intention is "to accommodate it, if need be, to the necessities of a changing economic situation."

And in the meantime your American dollar will purchase 100 cents' worth of commodities in American markets—gold or no gold.

### LABOR AND THE TOWNSEND PLAN

(I. L. N. S.)

That organized labor does not "bite" on the Townsend old-age pension plan is indicative of the intelligence of labor and its leaders, is the opinion of Hugh Russell Fraser, economic and political writer, who analyzes Dr. Townsend's arguments in an article, "The Townsend Plan to Make America Rich," in the current issue of the magazine, "Real America."

He quotes President William Green in his denunciation of the Townsendites as saying: "I should like to warn elderly people and labor in particular against being taken in by such proposals, exploiting the stand President Roosevelt has taken in favor of old-age pensions and making it difficult to get pension legislation through the coming Congress. The Townsend sales tax of 10 per cent would put an enormous burden on the worker and consumer, who would bear a much greater share of the burden in proportion to their income and ability to pay than the rich."

Fraser warns the American people against either embracing the plan or ignoring it as simply a laughable "quack scheme." He argues that although the plan is admittedly weak, it will have the support of millions of voters who either fall within the benefit clause themselves or have relatives who do.



## From Labor Viewpoint

"The N.R.A. has not increased employment four million" (as stated by President Roosevelt), "or one million, or any other substantial number," declares the "Examiner's" "financial authority." And he demands that the N.R.A. should be discarded. In the same issue readers are admonished to "support the President."

If the California-Hawaiian Sugar Refining Corporation really is "operating under an N.R.A. code" it should encounter no difficulty in settling its differences with its employees under Section 7-a. Locking out fifteen hundred workers because three hundred of them wanted to join a union certainly is "not living up to" the code.

Andy Mellon may not have defrauded the government of three million dollars in income tax. But it does seem significant that he transferred to members of his family many millions in bank, industrial and oil stocks prior to making out his tax return. He says he wanted to place "responsibilities" on his children. But many hard-headed Americans will be skeptical.

The righteousness of the position of organized labor in fighting for a prevailing wage clause in the proposed public works relief bill, now before the Senate, appears to be winning the active support of an increasingly wide circle of influential people. Thousands of telegrams have been received from all parts of the country by nearly all members of the Senate, urging them to support the McCarran amendment.

The motor vehicle is the largest single source of revenue for the state sales tax, according to the California State Automobile Association, in a statement citing figures recently released by the State Board of Equalization. Out of the total amount of sales taxes collected in California during the first eleven months of last year, motor vehicle buyers paid the sum of \$3,657,486, or nearly 8 per cent of the entire sales tax collected.

Of course the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce was among the first to protest against the McCarran amendment. This is a sure indication that the meritorious measure holds out some hope for labor. The chamber, according to a news item, informed the President that it "would stand behind him in his determination to veto the amendment" should it be adopted by both houses. This should greatly relieve the mind of the President.

Supported by all the reactionary elements of the country, a movement is on foot for repeal of the publicity section of the income tax law. In the House of Representatives this week Representative Millard of New York charged that the section was adopted "in a fit of hysteria," and that the country resents "the stigma of dishonesty" it casts on taxpayers. It is likely that Al Capone is one of those who resent too close scrutiny of income tax returns.

Appearing before the Senate finance committee, Miss Grace Abbott, professor of public welfare at the University of Chicago, and former head of the United States children's bureau, said that unemployment insurance should be financed without a tax on employees, "for that would make it merely a compulsory savings device, and not of fundamental help to employee security. Employees will bear the heaviest burden in any event, and should not be called upon for this additional contribution."

The City of San Francisco is to be congratulated upon the fact that the Board of Supervisors has refused to be stampeded into permitting the operation of one-man street cars. Besides being a recognition of San Francisco's position as a metropolitan center, the discharge of "only" four hundred men, many of whom no doubt would have been forced upon public relief, would have been a calamity at this time, when every effort of government is being directed to making more work instead of less. To the forceful leadership of Supervisor Havenner is due this victory over the unreasonable demands of corporate greed.

The State Supreme Court has ruled in a case from Los Angeles that counties may not send officials to Sacramento to "keep members of the Legislature informed" of the effect of pending bills on cities or counties, nor may such official delegations in turn advise their local units of the intent of pending laws where public moneys are used to finance the expense of official observers. The ruling is said to have "caused consternation in official circles," and on recommendation of City Attorney O'Toole a bill will be prepared for presentation to the Legislature permitting use of a reasonable sum of money to send city or county officials to legislative sessions.

Striking at what he terms the "double standard of law and order," General Smedley Butler, former head of the marines, writes in "Real America": "For years the industrialists have depended on the state militia—in many cases their own workers—to break strikes for them. And they've always done it with the plea that 'law and order must be preserved.' What industry means by law and order is this: They are strong believers in a system which encourages company thugs and National Guardsmen to kill honest workmen under the guise of 'protecting' a few mill windows from breakage during the stress and excitement of a strike without any consequences."

It was estimated when the gold cases came to the Supreme Court that private debts containing the gold clause totaled at least \$75,000,000,000, says an I. L. N. S. writer. The evidence is that the figure is far too small, he says. According to Justice McReynolds, he continues, this debt burden on private business alone would have been increased \$51,750,000,000. It would have broken practically every man who has a mortgage on his farm or his home. It would have been a transfer of wealth from debtor to creditor on a scale never known in the world's history. It would have increased the claims of capital so much that every effort would have been made to scale down the claims of labor, which would have meant the most ruthless and gigantic campaign of wage-cutting ever undertaken.

The persistence which President Green of the American Federation of Labor has shown in demanding the "prevailing wage" amendment to the administration's relief bill is justified by knowledge and experience. Low government wages invariably bring down wages in private industry to their level. The President's assurance that nothing would be done in the administration of the work relief plan that would tend to break down wage standards in private employment without doubt was given in good faith and in the belief that his subordinates would carry out his wishes. The experience of the N.R.A. shows how administration plans may go wrong and how the intent of the law may be misinterpreted. Labor has full confidence in President Roosevelt; but the same can not be said with reference to many in high places in the "new deal."

Looks like a prosperous year for the national debt.—St. Joseph "News-Press."

## Comment and Criticism

I. L. N. S.

In his thoughtful book, "Labor, Industry, Government," Matthew Woll urges labor to look sharp that government does not gain too large a measure of control over the lives and affairs of the workers.

Those who keep an eye on things doing in Washington may be more than a little inclined to conclude that Matthew Woll took a long-sighted look at the political currents before he dipped his pen in ink.

The book deserves more than reading: It deserves study. The passing of years has made possible the saying of many things that could not so well have been said even five years ago. Among other affairs treated with searching candor is the International Labor Organization and how idealism was trimmed by cold European diplomacy in Paris—again government riding hard on the workers.

\* \* \*

As the time draws on for enactment of a new N.R.A. legal backbone the wonderment grows as to whether some of the great fictions of the present structure will be continued. One of these fictions is that creation of the Labor Advisory Board gives labor some voice. It gives labor no voice which it does not have by the strength of its own lungs.

Another fiction is that there ought to be labor, industry and consumers' advisory councils, as if this device made for a perfect division of the social structure. It makes for a wholly fictitious division, and is one of the choicest pieces of hokum in the whole scheme.

Another and probably the greatest fiction is that code authorities composed of employers can rule industry in a manner justifying the term "industrial self-government." The truth about this is that the idea puts workers on the same plane as machinery and supplies, and the bosses govern the whole works.

That truth hasn't really sunk in yet—but when it does!

\* \* \*

One of the best commentators engaged in the business of telling about national affairs says that while the President started out with a 99 per cent control of Congress, his control now is about 70 per cent. In spite of the assertion of a wise congressman that "Congress will not enact any measure that the President does not want," the commentator is more nearly right than wrong.

Now, anyway you look at it, such a fact, if it is a fact, is about the most important political fact of the day. Nothing can be much more important in the realm of politics. A great many persons will be most anxious to know if this is so, and to know why it is so, if it is so. That, as it happens, is their job. Let them do it.

\* \* \*

Labor is fighting hot over the wage provisions of the \$4,880,000,000 relief program. The idea of a flat \$50 a month wage seems to be wrong. The idea seems to be for rates running from \$30 to \$70 a month. What such rates will do to skilled building trades is just too murderous to be contemplated in calmness.

Some day labor will adopt the methods of modern times in battling for public opinion. To some extent it does now, but more often it forgets that speed machines have taken the place of copper-toed boots. The horse and buggy days of campaigning have gone.

If the low-wage proposal goes through a great many are going to wonder shortly thereafter just what it was that rolled over them, and the worst of it all is that again the worker will be socked in the eye.



## Long Beach Meeting Of State Carpenters

That the union carpenters of California are deeply interested in the problems which confront them was evidenced by the fine turnout to the eighth annual convention of the California State Council of Carpenters, which was called to order in the Municipal Auditorium in Long Beach on Saturday, February 23.

In addition to the delegates from all parts of the state, many of whom were accompanied by the women members of their families, there was a fine representation from Los Angeles, Long Beach and other cities in southern California. Many from other crafts also were present.

The union carpenters had convened mainly for the purpose of reviewing the work of the past year and planning for the future. Some of the delegates had arrived the day before and had enjoyed the hospitality provided by Carpenters' Union 710.

After appropriate addresses of welcome and responses and the presentation of a gavel to President J. F. Cambiano, the Council was opened with the report of the committee on credentials, which revealed sixty-five delegates in attendance. President Cambiano then announced the committees.

### Many Felicitations Received

Telegrams expressing good wishes and interest in the work of the Council were received from several individuals and organizations. Secretary Paul Scharrenberg of the State Federation of Labor wired his inability to be present, and made the suggestion that it might be advantageous were the Council to hold its meetings at the same time and place as the State Federation of Labor.

Among those who addressed the Council during the first session was State Labor Commissioner Nolan, whose efforts in behalf of the prevailing wage and also for payment of the established rates for carpenters' helpers were lauded and indorsed by the Council.

Reports of officers showed good progress had been made during the year and that many new unions had affiliated with the Council. The financial report showed a neat balance in the Treasury. John F. Dalton, president of Los Angeles Typographical Union No. 174, addressed the Council upon invitation, and as past president of the State Federation of Labor brought the greetings of that body. He touched upon the fact that he was a

candidate for membership on the Board of Education, and the Council indorsed his candidacy.

Sunday's session was devoted to the report of the resolutions committee, of which Dave Ryan of San Francisco was chairman, and to that of the constitution committee.

### Some of the Resolutions

Among the resolutions approved by the Council were expressions of appreciation of the work of State Labor Commissioner Nolan; commending the attitude of the American Federation of Labor on the prevailing wage amendment to the work relief bill; creating a new executive board district comprised of San Diego and Imperial counties; submitting to referendum of locals six-hour day, with \$1.33 1/3 an hour; indorsing Assembly Bill 859 and Senate bill 549, and Assembly bill 857 and Senate bill 548, relative to violations of labor laws; favoring legislation making it mandatory for the state compensation commissioner to carry all insurance on contract jobs; indorsing Townsend plan of old-age pensions; condemning vigilante committee of Jackson for attacks upon miners, and commending Secretary Marsh of the Sacramento Federated Trades Council; indorsing efforts of American Federation of Labor and State Federation to secure old-age pensions, unemployment and sickness insurance.

### Officers Elected

Officers elected for the ensuing year were:

President, Joseph F. Cambiano, San Mateo local No. 162; vice-president, R. W. Robinson, San Pedro Pile Drivers No. 2375; secretary-treasurer, Bert P. Ward, San Jose No. 316; executive board, District No. 1, James F. Kearns, Hollywood Studio local 946; District No. 2, A. C. Allen, Merced local No. 1202; District No. 3, F. G. Fraser, San Francisco local No. 483; District No. 4, E. Westerman, Sacramento local No. 586.

Fresno was chosen as next year's convention city.

## Thirty-Hour Work-Week Bill Approved by Senate Committee

The sub-committee of the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary, headed by Senator Matthew M. Neely of West Virginia, which has been conducting hearings on the Black thirty-hour work-week bill, favors the bill by the wide margin of four to one.

A poll of the five members of the sub-committee showed the following result: For the thirty-hour bill, Senators Neely, McCarran, Norris and Hatch; against, Senator Austin.

The bill was to be reported to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary February 25, when it is expected to be approved and reported to the Senate. Final adoption of this extremely important measure is freely predicted, although organized labor is still aware that the fight must be continued unrelentingly until the thirty-hour work-week actually becomes the law of the land.

## State Legislature to Study Drunken Driver

Approved by the State Assembly in the first half of the legislative session, the proposed vehicle code, which systematizes and simplifies rules and language in the California vehicle act, is expected to be adopted early in the second session, starting March 4.

The bill will make driving laws easier to understand and their observance more widespread, in the opinion of a state-wide motor vehicle conference group which has been working on the codification for the past two years. The measure is pending before the Senate motor vehicle committee. It was introduced in the Assembly by Assemblyman William B. Hornblower of San Francisco.

There are no basic changes in the revised arrangement, and the bill of itself should be accepted, it was said in a statement by the legislative bureau of the California State Automobile Association, which co-operated with the state-wide conference group in working on the measure. The proposed code was drafted under supervision of the California Code Commission.

A number of proposed amendments to the vehicle laws have been introduced through other bills.

The problem of drunken driving has been given attention in an amendment proposed by the California Motor Vehicle Conference. It permits a drunken driving violation to be classed as a misdemeanor when no accident or injury is involved, in order to make punishment of offenders more certain and to simplify procedure so that municipal courts may dispose of such cases.

In support of the amendment it is pointed out that juries have been reluctant to send drunken drivers to state prison on the felony charge unless serious consequences have resulted from the violation. The felony charge and state prison sentence upon conviction would still apply to those who drive while intoxicated and cause damage, injury, or death.

With the same object of more certain punishment, another amendment would establish a new offense of "negligent homicide," with a lesser penalty than manslaughter, in fatal traffic accidents. The provision would apply in cases where minor infractions of the vehicle law result in death.

### OHIO ACCIDENTS INCREASE

The tremendous toll in dead and mutilated workers which those who own and operate industry levy in accidents, most of which are preventable, is strikingly illustrated by the increase in claims filed with the Industrial Commission of Ohio for December, 1934, made public by Thomas P. Kearns, superintendent of the Division of Safety and Hygiene. Demanding compensation for fatal and non-fatal injuries and occupational diseases, the claims for the month reached 12,835, or 1040 more than in November, and 2349 more than in December, 1933. Seventy-six workers were killed during the month. Workers handling objects received 2410 injuries; machinery was responsible for 2202 injuries and two deaths; falls of persons imposed 1336 injuries and seven deaths, and stepping upon or striking against objects caused 1190 injuries and one death.

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## New Move at Jackson "Regulates" Pickets

Latest reports from Jackson, Amador County, where employees of the bonanza mines have been locked out since October 1, when a demand for an increase in wages was made, are to the effect that comparative peace reigns since the so-called "vigilantes" appear to have been disbanded.

Edward D. Vandeleur, president of the State Federation of Labor, returned from a visit to Jackson early in the week, and states that legal advice for the miners had been secured, and the assertion of their rights which had been violated by armed men in the employ of the mine owners and the probability of damage suits against those guilty of recent outrages have had a restraining effect upon the lawless element enlisted in intimidating the miners.

It is likely, also, that indictments may be sought against county officials for their part in encouraging lawlessness.

Reports to the effect that the state highway patrol had been used in intimidating the locked-out miners are unwarranted, according to Vandeleur, who declares that patrol officers merely assisted in keeping the highways open. The pickets were permitted to use one side of the roads. He spoke highly of the good judgment displayed by the officers.

The latest move on the part of the mine operators was to obtain the adoption by the county commissioners of Amador County of an ordinance "regulating picketing," which declares in part:

"It is unlawful in Amador County to do any picketing in connection with any strike or upon any public highway or upon any private property without consent of the owner."

It also limits the number of pickets and further decrees that "no one should be on picket duty without authority from the organization under whose direction the strike has been called."

It is further ruled that a picket "must have been employed at the industry at the time the strike was called."

Vandeleur states that the union miners remain firm in their determination to refuse to go to work until their demands are granted. At present no mining is being done at any of the mines except the Central Eureka, where the miners returned to work under an agreement to arbitrate differences. At the other three mines the work is confined to unwatering the workings with the aid of unskilled non-union workers.

## Reports Increase in Business Of State Compensation Fund

In a report submitted to T. A. Reardon, director of the Department of Industrial Relations and chairman of the Industrial Accident Commission, by C. B. Day, manager of the State Compensation Insurance Fund, material gains are noted over the previous year.

The premium income for 1934 totaled \$5,608,792, an increase of \$1,384,981, or 33 per cent over 1933. Approximately twenty-six thousand employers patronize the Fund, or one-third of the insured payroll in the state. While the new business written increased materially, a substantial portion of this gain is due to the improvement in business conditions throughout the state during the past year.

The amount returned to policyholders during 1934 as dividends totaled \$831,605. This is in excess of 20 per cent of the premiums on the policies on which dividends have been allowed and represents a direct saving to employers. The expenses for 1934 were 15.94 per cent of the premiums, a substantial reduction over the last two

years; this will further increase the savings returned to policyholders.

The financial position of the Fund is now the best in its history.

## WAGE ADJUSTMENTS

During the month of January the fruit and vegetable canneries of California packed Brussels sprouts, spinach, and specialty packs. The workers in the canneries received in that period \$4478.77 in piece rate adjustments so that their earnings conformed with the minimum rates set by the Industrial Welfare Commission of the state and the National Recovery Administration. This sum was paid to 2773 women workers and fifteen men workers. The adjustments necessary are ascertained by a weekly audit of the cannery payrolls by auditors of the Division of Industrial Welfare. The audits made in January totaled twenty-eight.

## CHILD LABOR BILL DEFEATED

By refusing to reconsider its former vote refusing to ratify the child labor amendment to the federal Constitution the Nevada Senate killed the resolution, approved by the House of Representatives, for the remainder of this legislative session. The Legislature is not scheduled to meet again until 1937.

## Blows to Recovery Act In Two Court Decisions

Holding that the Weirton Steel Company is not engaged in interstate commerce, and that therefore Section 7-a of the National Industrial Recovery Act is not applicable, and that the company union of the corporation "affords a lawful and effective organization of the employees for collective bargaining through representatives of their own choosing," Judge John P. Nields, in the Federal Court at Wilmington, Del., has decided the famous case involving the validity of Section 7-a adversely to the federal government.

The government's suit, regarded as a major test of N.R.A.'s labor guarantee provision, was dismissed, and the plea for an injunction to restrain the company from dealing with its employees through the medium of the company union was denied.

It is expected that the Department of Justice will take steps to immediately appeal the case directly to the United States Supreme Court.

On the same day the Weirton decision was rendered a Kentucky judge, Charles I. Dawson, in the federal court at Louisville, held that coal mining is an intrastate business, and therefore beyond the regulatory power of Congress. He reaffirmed his previous conclusion that the National Recovery Act as applied to coal mining is unconstitutional. An immediate appeal by the government is planned in this case also.

## Charge Violation of Eight-Hour Agreement

Charging that two sets of books had been kept by Six Companies, Inc., contractors on the Boulder Dam project, one for the government auditors and one showing working time of employees in excess of the eight hours specified by the government, the books of the concern have been impounded at Las Vegas, Nev., on a search warrant.

The charges were contained in an affidavit filed by the district attorney at Reno, and the warrant was issued by Federal Judge Frank H. Norcross on the representations of J. F. Wagner, who claimed to be a former employee of the Six Companies.

The records have been taken in charge by the United States Marshal and an investigation will be made of the allegations. Agents of the Department of the Interior are also in Las Vegas to aid in the inquiry.

Wagner alleged that the violation of the contract by working the men at Boulder Dam overtime started with the construction of the huge project and that the contractors were liable under their agreement to a fine of \$5 per day per man where the eight-hour working day had been exceeded.

Wagner estimated that the contractors were liable to a fine of \$300,000.

## COMMUNITY CHEST PUBLICITY

Sidney Walton has agreed to serve as vice-chairman of the Community Chest publicity committee, according to W. P. F. Brawner, chairman of publicity, who also announced the appointment of Randall Larson to head the Chest speakers' bureau for the coming year.

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## Run o' the Hook

(This department is conducted by the president of San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21)

An important special meeting of the San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21 will be held in Convention Hall, Labor Temple, 2940 Sixteenth street, corner of Capp, Sunday, March 3, the hour of opening the session being set for 1 p. m. The meeting has been called at the instance of the executive committee, and, as set forth in notices mailed to every chapel in the local jurisdiction, is for the purpose of "receiving the report of the canvassing board on the special referendum election of February 20; to consider a plan of the executive committee designed to continue relief for unemployed members of the union, or any plan to be adopted by the union, said plan to be submitted to the membership at a referendum election; to consider a request for a reconsideration of a motion adopted by the union at its February meeting making the report of the committee on revision of the constitution and laws a special order of business at the March meeting of the union, and to proceed with the consideration of that report at this special meeting if such a request is complied with." With matters of such vital concern to the membership as outlined in the foregoing program to be disposed of, further urge for an attendance representative of the union should be unnecessary.

With the sudden death of John W. Kelly on February 23 San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21 suffers the loss of one of its oldest and most esteemed members. Mr. Kelly was ill but a few hours before his death. He succumbed to an attack of acute indigestion. Mr. Kelly was a native of San Francisco, where he was born in 1865. His passing brought to a close an active and useful life. He had been a member of the union for approximately fifty years, and had occupied many of the executive offices within its gift with credit and honor to himself and the organization. Mr. Kelly was a past president of the Union Printers' Mutual Aid Society; National Parlor No. 118, N. S. G. W.; Redwood Camp, W. O. W., and of the Washington Grammar School Alumni Association. He had been one of the composing room staff of the San Francisco "Examiner" for two score years prior to his retirement from the trade in 1932. Mr. Kelly was the devoted father of Mrs. James M. O'Connor and Anthony Byrne Kelly, and loving brother of Elizabeth E. Kelly, Mrs. Walter L. Johnson, Mrs. John A. Enos and William J. and James D. Kelly, the latter a former secretary of San Francisco Bookbinders and Bindery Women's Union. His beloved wife, Elizabeth B. Kelly, and a brother, Thomas E., had preceded him in the great adventure. Following a requiem high mass for Mr. Kelly in Star of the Sea Church last Monday, his body was laid to rest in Holy Cross Cemetery. His honorary pallbearers were P. J. Cotter, D. J. Gallick, Jr., Robert Hetherington, G. E. Mitchell, Sr., and Albert Springer; chosen from the union and the Mutual Aid Society, and Mr. Coffin of the Washington School Alumni Association. The sympathy of a host of sorrowing friends is extended to the bereaved relatives of Mr. Kelly.

John L. Dunn of the Federal Printing and Composition Company chapel died in Veterans' Hospital at Fort Miley last Saturday. Mr. Dunn's death was due to pneumonia, which developed following an operation for acute appendicitis. He

was born in Illinois, and was 35 years old when he responded to the final summons. Mr. Dunn came to California five years ago and had made San Francisco his home the last twenty months, coming here from Sacramento, where he was employed in the state printing office. He had served his country in the navy and had been honorably discharged from that arm of the government's service. While Mr. Dunn's residence in San Francisco had not been one of great length, his sense of duty to his country, his union and his fellow men, together with an unbending desire to provide as well as achieve the really worthwhile things of life, had gained for him a legion of admiring friends. The high esteem in which he was held was attested when the office in which he was employed suspended operation during the funeral hour, which made it possible for his fellow workers to attend the obsequies. Surviving Mr. Dunn are his widow, Mrs. Louise Dunn, and a daughter, Laurel, 2½ years old, whose sorrow is being shared by Mr. Dunn's fellow unionists. Graveside services for the decedent were in National Cemetery, Presidio of San Francisco, where he was honored with a military interment last Tuesday.

Funeral services for Henry B. Hendrickson, whose death was announced in last week's issue of the Labor Clarion, were held in a Bayview mortuary home February 23. The services were conducted by the Typographical Union, to which he had belonged many years. Mr. Hendrickson, whose birthplace was in Norway, and who was in his sixty-eighth year when he surrendered to an illness from which he had suffered many months, was engaged in the book and job branch of printing, and was one of that rapidly diminishing number of itinerant craftsmen who have graced the trade for so many years. While he was foreign born, he had lived in the United States fifty years, and traversed its boundaries many times in his more youthful days. Lately he has divided his time quite equally between New York and San Francisco. He was in the government's transport service throughout the Spanish-American war. Interment of Mr. Hendrickson's remains was made in Cypress Lawn Cemetery. A. F. Boot, W. W. Carter, J. C. Gaiser, Richard Wolf, W. F. Shephard and A. L. Swanston of the secretary's chapel, with which Mr. Hendrickson was identified, were the pallbearers.

The funeral of Frank Burwell of the San Francisco "News" chapel, who died at 9:30 p. m. last Tuesday of cerebral embolism was held at 10 o'clock today. Bluffton, Ind., was Mr. Burwell's birthplace. He was 63 years old, and had lived in San Francisco seventeen years. Mr. Burwell was a versatile printer, having been employed in various trade plants and newspaper composing rooms since his arrival in this city, and was well known to printers in both branches of the craft. Mr. Burwell's final illness probably was the result of the serious injuries he suffered in an automobile crash last summer. Prior to that time he was considered among the most rugged of his fellow printers. Although quiet in nature, he never lacked courage to rise in defense of justice and truth. If a friend were in need of aid, he was of the kind ever found willing to immediately and generously respond. Mr. Burwell is survived by his widow, Mrs. Helen Grace Burwell, to whom the sympathy of the union's membership is extended in her bereavement. Inurnment of Mr. Burwell's ashes was at Cypress Lawn Cemetery.

L. H. Whitten of the "Pacific Daily Racing Form" chapel, who underwent a serious major surgical operation in a San Jose hospital last Monday, is reported to have rallied nicely from the ordeal and apparently is now on the road to recovery of his health.

Members of the union should address their representatives in Congress urging them to support the "prevailing wage" amendment to the

works relief bill. Senator McAdoo of California is reported as having voted against the amendment in the Senate, while Senator Johnson approved the amendment. Richard J. Welch and Mrs. Florence P. Kahn are Fourth and Fifth California Congressional District representatives, respectively.

The golden anniversary of Burlington (Iowa) Typographical Union No. 75 (organized February 27, 1885) was celebrated Saturday, February 23, with a banquet and entertainment. Woodruff Randolph, secretary-treasurer of the International Typographical Union, was the main speaker. Thomas R. Downie, editor of the Galesburg "Labor News," and J. C. Lewis, president Iowa State Federation of Labor, also made addresses.

Death claimed Thomas F. Sturgess, 71, president of Denver Typographical Union, at the Union Printers' Home in Colorado Springs, February 20. Mr. Sturgess became a member of the International Typographical Union over half a century ago. Except for a few years when he served on the advertising staff of an Omaha newspaper, he has been active in Typographical Union affairs. He represented his local on wage arbitrations before the newspaper publishers and was elected president of Denver Typographical Union in May, 1933. His term would have expired in May, 1935.

Illinois state prison print shops still continue competition with contract labor. Isn't it time to agitate for some kind of a "new deal" in Illinois?

A judge in an Eastern city recently severely censured the lawyers and receiver of a bankrupt printing company for withholding the printers' wages, which were long overdue.

It is reported the depression in stocks in Wall Street affected the "Wall Street Journal" so adversely it discontinued publishing its afternoon edition. As a result, a number of the "Journal's" printers were laid off.

At a banquet of "leading citizens" in a Missouri city one of the principal orators exclaimed that if it had not been for the printers' unions and affiliated bodies the United States would have "gone on the rocks in this depression!"

There is a body of printers east of the Rocky Mountains which loans money, but exacts no interest and pays no dividends.

Under the "new deal" in Washington, D. C., the G. P. O. has fifty new agencies to cope with. Formerly book work predominated, but now 90 per cent is job work.

### Call-Bulletins—By "Hoot"

Members of the chapel heard with regret of the death of Fred W. Dunn of Los Angeles. Several of them had worked with and under him on the "Examiner" of that city. Fred was the first foreman of that paper and was beloved by all who knew him.

Roscoe Cole's wife is very fond of wild flowers. While out riding the other day she saw some by the roadside and asked Roscoe to get them. He did, but was not particular about what he picked. Result, a couple of days' layoff with poison oak for Roscoe.

Frank Meyers was off a couple of days for observation, but is back on the job again.

While walking along the Embarcadero the other day we saw a sign over a thirst parlor which indicated the proprietor must have been a printer at one time and given his parlor an appropriate name. It was "T. F. Rush." Very appropriate for such a place, says we.

Frank McCoy is wearing a size larger hat these days. The stork left a bouncing boy at Frank's house.

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## Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

A careful reading of Secretary-Treasurer Randolph's editorial in the February "Typographical Journal," in which he ably reviews the actions of the M. T. D. U. going in for more litigation in Boston, places the third vice-president of the I. T. U. in a very bad light, showing that officer lending aid and support to "suspended members in a continued violation of the law."

Is there any better proof of the unfitness of the president of the M. T. D. U. for the office of third vice-president of the I. T. U.? Further proof should not be necessary. He should be deposed. His actions in this case simply amount to a violation of his oath as third vice-president of the I. T. U. For instead of assisting in the upholding of the laws of the I. T. U. he assists others—suspended members—in treating those laws as a mere scrap of paper.

By their unwarranted actions in this matter the president of the M. T. D. U. who, as such, becomes third vice-president of the I. T. U., and the secretary-treasurer of the M. T. D. U., as a member of the I. T. U., by assisting suspended members in knowingly and arrogantly violating the laws of the I. T. U., reflect no credit upon themselves nor the offices they hold. The presumption of M. T. D. U. officers in their attempts to dictate the policies of the I. T. U. by continuing to pursue their rule-or-ruin policies calls for plain speaking and action.

In a locality where the I. T. U. has complete jurisdiction some forty suspended members of that body, by court litigation, assisted by M. T. D. U. officers, attempt to deprive 175 mailer members of the I. T. U. of their jobs so they may supplant them with members of the M. T. D. U.—not alone a ludicrous but a serious matter. Probably the M. T. D. U. officers imagine that in this way they may "blaze the trail" for their pet hobby, a mailers' international union.

But the fact remains that the members of the M. T. D. U. are not so solid for a mailers' international union after all. The letter addressed "to officers and members of local Mailers' Unions," appealing for funds, and typed, "Executive Council, M. T. D. U., Rand Anderson, secretary," which was forwarded to the president of the I. T. U. by an officer of a mailers' union affiliated with the M. T. D. U., indicates a weak link in the chain of the proposed mailers' international union, or rather the "ball and chain" the M. T. D. U. officers seek to hobble the members of the M. T. D. U. with.

It might also be of interest to them to learn where the "leak" occurred in reference to their appeal for funds for further court litigation. The secretary of the M. T. D. U. might list those donations in his financial statement in the "Typographical Journal." It would give identity and further curiosity to his financial statement.

### La Guardia for City Power Plan;

#### Scores Exorbitant Private Rates

Characterizing the proposal for a \$10,000,000 reduction in electric rates made by officials of the Consolidated Gas system in New York as nothing but a smoke screen, Mayor La Guardia declared that the city would go ahead with the construction of a municipal electric light and power plant, which he claimed was backed by President Roosevelt, as a national example of the real cost of producing electricity for mass consumption.

"The companies propose the same old thing," the mayor said. "They demand an exorbitant rate of return on admitted water and written-up capitalization, and lay down so many conditions

whereby the consumers pay and the companies reap. Nothing will be done to retard the present plans of the city and we shall continue our work.

"The companies should promise to write off the excess capitalization immediately and without condition. Since when is a wrongdoer permitted to dictate terms as a condition to ending his wrongdoing?"

#### SUCCEEDS MRS. RUMSEY

The National Industrial Recovery Board announces that the Industrial Emergency Committee has approved the appointment of Mrs. Emily Newell Blair to serve as chairman of the Consumers' Advisory Board of the National Recovery Administration. An active member of the Consumers' Board from the first days of N.R.A., Mrs. Blair as a member of the executive committee was closely associated with the late chairman of the board, Mrs. Charles Cary Rumsey.

#### UNION LABEL ON STATE PRINTING

The Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, through I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer, is appealing to all state federations of labor to urge passage by state legislatures of a resolution requiring that state printing be done by union labor. The state bodies are also asked to co-operate fully with Allied Printing Trades Councils in the various state capitals. The House of Representatives of Minnesota has led the way in this respect by adopting resolutions favoring the proposal.

#### STUDENTS AND TEACHERS STRIKE

University students of Havana, Cuba, went on strike to influence the government to grant their demands, which include removal of military jurisdiction over Cuba, immediate release of political prisoners, demilitarization of the police, guarantee of personal rights, suppression of urgency courts created for trying so-called "terrorists," and larger appropriations for schools. Teachers at Regla, near Havana, who declared a forty-eight-hour strike to enforce their demand for greater school funds, were joined by the teachers in twenty schools in Havana.

#### LYNCHING SCORED AS "ANARCHY"

Senator Edward P. Costigan, co-author of the Wagner-Costigan anti-lynching bill, denounced lynching to a Senate sub-committee as "open anarchy." Costigan, the first of a large panel of witnesses, said he believed lynching could be eliminated entirely by this law. The bill provides that any county in which a person is lynched will be subject to claims for damages of from \$2000 to \$10,000 to the relatives of the victim. Senator Wagner, co-author of the bill, told the committee: "The lynchings perpetrated the past two years constitute almost every type of infamy that blots the record of civilization."

#### STRIKE WON BY ICE-CUTTERS

Warm weather helped the ice-cutters at Conneaut Lake, Pa., to win their strike for a pay increase of from 20 to 40 cents per hour. After a two-days' walkout the cutting firm, sensing a thaw, granted the boost and the cutters went back to work.

### WITH THE NEW DEAL WHEN PURCHASING HOME PRODUCTS



Printing . . . Book-binding . . . Photo-Engraving . . . Cuts Stereotyping . . . Electrotyping . . . Mailing . . .

Ask for the above emblem, which represents the product of Unions affiliated with the

**Allied Printing Trades Council**

A Symbol of Fair Conditions for the Worker

## Culinary Notes

The Clinton Cafeteria, at 1059 Market street, has its "sucker bait" in the window again. This time it is pictures of Wild West life when the West was really wild. The crowd comes and goes, but it fails to go into Clinton's to eat. Instead it goes on down the street looking for our union house card, which is one thing Clinton's cafeterias have not got, for the reason that they refuse to employ union labor or to grant decent working conditions or pay their workers union rate of wages.

The Blue Danube Cafe, on Ellis street, is another one of those houses where the boss thinks that it pays better to advertise than it does to hire union labor. In the front window of this joint there is a "Chronicle" extra with a clipping from that paper extolling the merits of the place. But it doesn't tell how fat the boss is and how he got fat sweating the workers long hours for skinny wages. So stay out of this place.

Remember the Salad Bowl, out on Geary street, has our union card; so there is no need for any of you to patronize the Koffee Kup, which is an open shop affair.

The States Palace, at 131 Market street, has been straightened out once again. Let's hope it stays that way from now on.

Remember to stay away from the Roosevelt, on Fifth street, all Foster's, Pig 'n' Whistles, White Log Taverns and the Olympic Hotel, on Eddy street.

Where you see our union house card in the window, that house is 100 per cent organized.

#### TEXTILE UNIONS ORGANIZED

John J. Molloy, organizer of the United Textile Workers of America, has established a number of textile unions in Lowell, Mass., and vicinity during the last few weeks. The new organizations include woolen and worsted workers employed by the United States Bunting Company, Walsh's Mills, the Royal Worsted, Ames Worsted, and the Navy Yard and Collinsville mills. It was announced that employees of the Newmarket Manufacturing, Abbott Worsted, Boott, Merrimack and Waterhead Mills and the Hub Hosiery Mill had also been organized. Union officials said that twelve locals of the Textile Workers' Union were functioning in Lowell. Thomas F. McMahon, president of the United Textile Workers, Secretary-Treasurer James Starr and Horace Riviere, fourth vice-president, will go to Lowell on March 2 to participate in the ceremonies attending the formal opening of the Lowell Textile Council headquarters.

When your wife goes to market tie a union label string on her finger.

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LIVED UP TO A GOOD REPUTA-  
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## Board of Supervisors Refuses to Sanction One-Man Street Cars

The ban on one-man street cars which has prevailed in San Francisco for seventeen years will be continued indefinitely as the result of the action of the Board of Supervisors, which last Monday defeated a proposal made at the instance of Samuel Kahn, president of the Market Street Railway, to repeal the ordinance.

The board voted nine to two against repeal, the only members favoring the proposal being Jesse Colman and Arthur Brown.

Supervisor Havenner led the fight against repeal, and in reply to the oft-repeated statement that the Market Street Railway faced bankruptcy unless it was permitted to economize by the use of one-man cars, to offset the recent award of increased wages by an arbitration board, declared it was "only a bugaboo, or plain propaganda."

The major part of the debate was devoted to a proposal of Supervisor Gallagher to refer the matter back to the public utilities committee, with instructions to study and report on what lines would be adaptable to the one-man car plan, and hours of operation under it, and also investigation of the plan in other cities.

Gallagher declared he wanted the committee to definitely ascertain the number of men who would be released if the change were authorized, and said he could not vote for repeal without this definite knowledge.

Adolph Uhl took part in the debate, which took a wide range, going into the history of the Market Street Railway and the management of the Municipal Railway. Uhl charged that 127 employees of the Municipal Railway had been discharged, and that a saving of \$445,000 to the city had resulted.

Answering this statement, Havenner quoted from a report of E. G. Cahill, manager of utilities, and explained that while the number of employees of the Municipal lines was less than three years

ago, the saving was due to pay reductions and other economies authorized by the Supervisors. He termed Uhl's remarks "an unwarranted attack" on the Municipal Railway.

Gallagher's motion to recommit the matter was defeated by a vote of seven to four, after a plea by Colman for immediate action. Uhl, Schmidt and Ratto voted with Gallagher.

Havenner then introduced an amendment to the repeal ordinance providing that if the one-man car proposal were adopted it should not go into effect until June 17, to give labor groups an opportunity to circulate petitions against it and bring about a referendum. This failed, ten to one, with Colman opposing it on the general ground of being against a referendum.

The vote was then taken on the repeal, and lost, nine to two.

### FAVORS DEALING WITH UNIONS

Adam Wilkinson, representing employers in New England, and R. B. Wolf, representing employers in the Northwest, delivered addresses before the twentieth annual meeting in New York of the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry. Declaring that the "new deal" had won the imagination of labor, Wilkinson said: "It is far better for us in the industry to conduct negotiations with responsible heads of the labor groups than to refuse and have the entire question become a political one." He added that Section 7-a of the National Industrial Recovery Act "may prove to be not an unmixed blessing."

## Union Men Murdered

Incensed at the recent killing of two members of the Fruit and Vegetable Workers' Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, during a strike in the Imperial Valley, the Federated Trades and Labor Council of San Diego, and a number of unions have dispatched telegrams of protest to Governor Merriam.

The murdered men, Alfred Kenneth Hamaker and Paul Knight, were with other strikers picketing at a packing shed in El Centro when strike-breakers and hired gunmen opened fire without warning, killing the two strikers.

The secretary of the union, C. B. Lawrence, charged that the union men "were murdered by hired gunmen," and that state highway patrolmen, El Centro police and sheriffs broke up the picket lines by the aid of tear gas and arrested several strikers. It was reported that fifty additional highway officers had been sent into the Imperial Valley for strike duty.

The workers are on strike to enforce demands for a minimum wage of 50 cents an hour, recognition of the union for collective bargaining and abolition of piece work.

## Lockout Ends With Election Agreement

After being locked out for a period of twenty-two hours, the 1500 employees of the California-Hawaiian Sugar Company, operating a sugar refinery at Crockett, returned to work on Friday last after an agreement had been reached between the company and the representatives of the unions affected.

Under the terms of the truce the 1500 employees of the plant will be permitted to hold an election within a week or ten days to determine whether they will form unions in accordance with Section 7-a of the N.R.A.

The conference that reopened the plant was held by H. C. Welle, plant manager; H. J. Carty, representing the warehouse men; two spokesmen for plant workers and a representative of the I. L. A.

The trouble started over the alleged refusal of the company to allow union organizers to enter the plant. Leaders of the union claim that fifteen men were discharged for union activities, which the company officials deny, claiming they refused to return to work.

The refinery is said to have operated for many years under "American plan" conditions, and the company claims it has "signed the N.R.A. code and is living up to it."

William B. Tyler, vice-president of the company, in a public statement, threatened to "divert our large cargoes of raw sugar through the Panama Canal to the Atlantic coast." "We do not and did not object to the organization of any union outside of working hours," said another official of the company.

The closing down of the great California-Hawaiian Sugar Refining Corporation plant at Crockett, said to be the largest in the world, because of a controversy over labor relations, is another illustration of a "one-industry" town being placed at the mercy of a single corporation.

Crockett, a town of 5000 inhabitants, is entirely dependent on the sugar refinery. When the Weighers, Warehousemen and Cereal Workers' Union, affiliated with the International Longshoremen's Union, attempted to organize the three hundred warehousemen employed in the plant, the company inaugurated what has been termed an "unprecedented" lockout of the 1500 employees.

### IMMIGRATION HEAD SUED

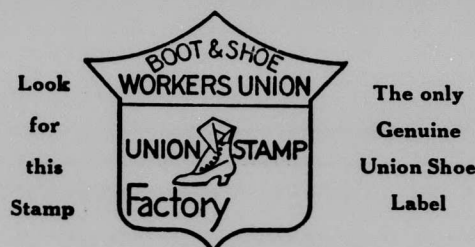
Immigration Commissioner D. W. MacCormack has been sued by Mrs. Lucy J. Harris of Washington for \$150,000 damages. The papers were filed in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. Mrs. Harris, who was at one time chairman of the board of special inquiry in Chinese cases, charges that Mr. MacCormack wrote letters to United States senators stating that she was the "worst" employee in the immigration service. She says she was dismissed from the service as the result of these letters.

The union label is supreme. Look for it. You'll never find it on inferior goods.

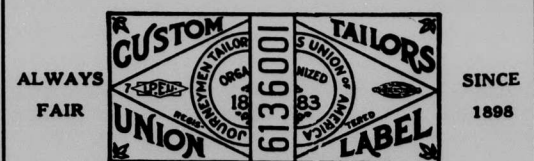
### WE DON'T PATRONIZE LIST

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize List" of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of Labor Unions and sympathizers are requested to cut this out and post it.

American Tobacco Company.  
Baker, Hamilton & Pacific Company.  
California Building Maintenance Co., 20 Ninth.  
Clinton Cafeterias.  
Co-Op Manufacturing Company.  
Domestic Hand Laundry, 218 Ellis.  
Dornbecker Furniture Manufacturing Company, Portland, Oregon.  
E. Goss & Co., Cigar Mfg., 113 Front.  
Foster's Lunches and Bakeries.  
Goldberg, Bowen & Co., grocers, 242 Sutter.  
Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of Dreadnaught and Bodyguard Overalls.  
"Grizzly Bear," organ of N. S. G. W.  
Hollywood Dry Corporation and its Products.  
J. C. Hunken's Grocery Stores.  
Kroehler Furniture Manufacturing Company.  
Manning's, Inc., Coffee and Sandwich Shops.  
Mann Manufacturing Company, Berkeley.  
Marquard's Coffee Shop and Catering Company.  
Petri Wine Company, Battery and Vallejo.  
Purity Chain Stores.  
San Francisco Biscuit Co. (located in Seattle.)  
S. H. Kress Company Stores.  
Sutro Baths.  
The Mutual Stores Company.  
Torino Bakery, 2823 Twenty-third.  
Traung Label & Litho Company.  
Union Furniture Company, 2075 Mission.  
Woolworth's Stores.  
All Non-Union independent taxicabs.  
Barber shops that do not display the shop card of the Journeymen Barbers' Union are unfair



**Union Label Shoes**  
At BENDER'S  
\$4.00—Work or Dress Shoes—\$6.50  
UNION CLERKS  
**BENDER'S**  
"The Family Shoe Store"  
2412 MISSION STREET (Near Twentieth)



GREAT VALUES—WE'LL EXPECT YOU  
624 **BOSS** YOUR  
MKT. ST. TAILOR



## Coast Marine Workers Forming Organization

The conference of Pacific Coast marine workers which has been in session in the Labor Temple for the last two weeks expects to complete its work and adjourn before the end of the present week.

Said to represent 50,000 workers, the conference is composed of the following organizations: International Longshoremen's Association, National Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots of America, Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association, International Sailors' Union, comprising the Sailors' Union of the Pacific, Marine Firemen, Oilers and Water Tenders, Marine Cooks and Stewards, and American Radio Telegraphers' Association.

The following statement from the conference was released to the press on Tuesday last:

"The conference being held in the Labor Temple has been in session daily since the 18th, with committees working overtime. Its importance to the workers in the maritime industry is well understood. With representatives of the various maritime organizations from the Puget Sound country, the Columbia River district, and San Pedro, as well as San Francisco, it is truly a representative group, and the views and opinions of the representatives of fifty thousand workers are being co-ordinated in a manner that will be to the advantage of all. The recent strike demonstrated that a new strategy has been instituted among the marine organizations, and this conference is the direct result. No longer will it be possible for conditions to compel one of the affiliated organizations to continue indirectly to assist in defeating a sister organization by continuing to work with strikebreakers. We have put that behind us for all time. We have by our unity established a relationship that will be maintained hereafter. It is hoped through the Marine Federation of the Pacific Coast to perfect an organization that will function in the marine industry in a manner similar to the railroad brotherhoods, in the railway industry. Upon the completion of the deliberations of the present conference ways and means to implement the organization so formed will be devised. The conference will, it is hoped, be able to conclude its sessions this week."

### BUILDING TRADES OFFICIAL NAMED

It was announced at the headquarters in New York of the National Public Housing Conference that J. W. Williams, president of the Building Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, has been named and has accepted a vice-presidency of the National Public Housing Conference.

Sonny—Mother, we're going to play elephants at the zoo and we want you to help us. Mother—What on earth can I do? Sonny—You can be the lady who gives them peanuts and candy.—Baltimore "Sun."

### DEATHS IN UNION RANKS

Since last reports the following members of local unions have passed away: Alexander Dijeau, member of Musicians' Union No. 6; Ernest E. Craig, Teamsters and Chauffeurs' Union; Francis J. O'Connell, Musicians' Union No. 6; John W. Kelly, Typographical Union No. 21; Frank Burwell, Typographical Union No. 21; George C. Poiesz, Machinists' Union No. 284; John Benso-vich, Carmen's Union, Division 518; Samuel D. Palmer, Professional Embalmers' Union No. 9049; Alexander Jackson, Bricklayers' Union; John L. Dunn, Typographical Union No. 21.

## Dubinsky Favors Retention and Enforcement of N.R.A. Codes

Better enforcement of labor provisions in N.R.A. codes and changes of provisions to improve wage and working standards were urged by trade union executives and others at a symposium held in New York by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Julius Hochman, general manager of the joint board of the Dress and Waistmakers' Union, predicted a wave of strikes unless Section 7-a of the Recovery Act is enforced. He also said:

"If times do not improve soon, then the disappointed labor forces will probably not resort to strikes but will attempt to do things by political action. Probably there will be an effort made to organize a third political party, to be called a labor party, or otherwise, but in any event with the backing of labor."

David Dubinsky, president of the union, said that labor was disappointed with the results of the codes, but that he favored retention of N.R.A. and would rely on strikes to win code enforcement, if other means of enforcement failed.

## Birthday Greetings to President Net Tidy Sum for Research Work

More than 100,000 persons sent birthday greetings through Postal Telegraph to President Roosevelt January 30, contributing 100,274 quarters, a total of \$25,068.56, to the President's National Commission for Infantile Paralysis Research, it is announced.

The national commission will refund 70 per cent of the amount for local infantile paralysis relief.

## Teamsters' Conference

A Pacific Coast conference representing the seventy-six locals of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, and Helpers in the states of Washington, Oregon and California was held in Portland, Ore., February 16.

The conference was for the purpose of laying the groundwork for the annual convention of the International Brotherhood to be held in Portland the week of September 9, and for the purpose of considering ways and means for concerted coast-wide action in solving common problems.

Extensive plans were laid for the entertainment and comfort of the convention delegates.

Among those present at the conference from the San Francisco Bay region were Michael Casey, International vice-president; John P. McLaughlin, secretary of Teamsters' Local 58; Walter Otto, Retail Delivery Drivers; Secretary Connolly, Laundry Drivers, and Secretary Real of Oakland Teamsters.

## State Labor History By Dr. Ira B. Cross

A comprehensive history of the labor movement in California from the pen of Dr. Ira B. Cross, professor of economics on the Flood Foundation in the University of California, has just been issued by the University Press. The work takes up the development of the labor movement from the Mission era, which began toward the close of the eighteenth century, until the general strike in San Francisco in the summer of 1934.

As explained in the preface, however, events of labor organization and history are given in detail only up to 1901, in order to provide the historical background necessary for an understanding of the present position of labor in the state. Only a few of the more noteworthy events after that year are touched on.

The book is illustrated with pictures of labor leaders throughout the whole course of the movement in California and of a few of the outstanding events of labor's history.

The formation of the Union Labor party, which was effective in electing Eugene Schmitz and P. H. McCarthy as mayor of San Francisco, is explained in detail, and such items as the various labor disturbances and the anti-Japanese and anti-Chinese agitations are given exhaustive treatment.

### STREET LIGHTING RATE REDUCTION

Substantial reduction in street lighting rates was announced this week by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Effective with the March bills for this service to municipalities rates will be reduced approximately 10 per cent below present charges. The reduction applies to all street lighting facilities owned by the company in incorporated cities and towns in P. G. and E. territory, which covers some thirty-seven counties of central and northern California.

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## Ohio Court Upholds Ban on Prison Goods

In an outstanding decision the Court of Appeals in Columbus, Ohio, ruled that the Ohio Legislature can prevent goods made by convict labor in other states from coming into the open market of Ohio and "wielding their evil influence." This is the first higher court ruling in the United States since the federal Hawes-Cooper act took effect in January, 1934.

By the federal act goods made by prisoners in other states, upon their delivery in Ohio, are placed upon the same footing as Ohio prison-made goods, which can be used only in correctional institutions, Judge Manuel Levine said in a written opinion.

The case was brought before the court in the appeal of Asa H. Whitfield of Montgomery, Ala., agent for the sale of Alabama prison-made goods, who appealed from his conviction in the municipal court for selling shirts in Ohio made by convicts in Wetumpka prison. The attorney for Whitfield contended that Ohio did not have the power to enact a law which prohibits the so-called free flow of commerce between the states, which he said comes wholly within the jurisdiction of the United States Congress. Judge Levine held, however, that under the Hawes-Cooper act the Ohio law banning Alabama prison-made labor products was valid.

### TAXICAB DRIVERS STRIKE

A strike of the chauffeurs in Mexico City left the entire city without a single taxicab for hire. The strikers demanded a collective contract and a change in status from operators on their own account to employees. Hitherto the chauffeurs have paid the owners about 5 pesos a day for the use of their cars. The strikers patrolled the city in a large number of cars to prevent the strike being broken.

### SERVANTS' UNION RECOGNIZED

Official recognition of the Domestic Servants' Union was granted by President Alfonso Lopez of the Republic of Colombia in compliance with a recommendation of the General Labor Bureau. The headquarters of the new union are in Bogota. Senora Teresa Tobar is president of the organization. The workers in this Central American country are quite generally organized, even such distantly separated groups as bootblacks and lottery ticket sellers having their unions.

### Thirty-Hour Work-Week to Be Asked by United Mine Workers

The United Mine Workers of America, seeking a new working agreement with the coal operators in the bituminous fields of what is termed the "Appalachian region," to replace the present one, which expires April 1, asks for a thirty-hour work-week and slight wage adjustments.

John L. Lewis, president of the miners, in outlining the proposed new contract, stated that both wage and hour demands of the union would mean an addition of only about 22 cents a ton in the production costs of bituminous coal, regarded as very low in view of advancing selling prices of coal and general increases in living costs.

There are almost 350,000 miners in the Appalachian region, which includes Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois and adjacent territory. About 100,000 are in other bituminous-producing regions, including the Southwest and far West. Wage agreements for all expire April 1. The union asks that the new contract be for a period of two years.

## To Boycott "Uneeda"

The Socialist party announces from Chicago that a nation-wide housewives' boycott of Uneeda bakers' products would be launched in support of the strike of 6000 employees of the National Biscuit Company, makers of Uneeda cakes, cookies and crackers.

The strike was called by unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor on January 8 in New York, Atlanta, Newark, Philadelphia and York, Pa., following the collapse of seven months' negotiations with the company for a pay increase.

The aid of the Socialist party in organizing the boycott was requested by William A. Galvin, president of Inside Bakery Workers' Union No. 19585, on behalf of the A. F. of L. unions involved in the strike.

## Union Label Section

By THOMAS A. ROTELL

Although the number of persons who wear clothing far exceeds those who don't, it seems there aren't enough clothes bearing the union label being worn to keep the garment industries in San Francisco busy. Why not get behind the Garment Workers, the Hatters and the Boot and Shoe Workers and see that you have the union label on the articles you purchase? The merchant can not compel you to buy non-union goods against your wishes. Fulfill your obligation by demanding the label.

Although the Hunken grocery stores are a local concern, they should not be patronized by our people. Hunken does not believe in being fair to the Grocery Clerks and the other independent grocers. Ask for the Clerks' button when buying.

The Automobile Mechanics should be congratulated on their efforts to organize all the auto repair shops in San Francisco. Let's help them along and take our automobiles to shops that display the union card. It doesn't cost any more and you get a better job.

Inasmuch as we are almost surrounded by water, we send our laundry out to be washed. Why not call a union laundry wagon driver and ask to see the Laundry Workers' label on the list, thereby assuring yourself that it is going to be done in a white laundry that is not afraid to tell the world that it is fair to the organized labor movement?

It makes no difference how classy or good a restaurant looks, it is not good enough or classy enough unless the window is displaying the union house card of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees. Before you eat look for the card.

The Union Label Section also believes that Carmen have a right to work, so we sent a letter to the Board of Supervisors protesting against the one-man cars.

The Molders in this district make very good stoves. Popular trade names, too—the Wedgewood, Spark, and Occidental. And believe it or not, they are 100 per cent union-made. Give them a trial when buying your next stove.

The Union Label Section wishes to help all the labor movement. Will you co-operate? If your organization is affiliated see that your delegates attend our meetings. If not affiliated, your organization should do so at once and do its share in making the labor movement economically effective in creating and maintaining a market for union goods and union labor.

And when this country does get on its feet, most likely they will be on the taxpayer's neck.—Thomaston (Ga.) "Times."

## Auto Industry May Be Preparing for Strife

Many people believe that the automobile manufacturers, realizing the unfair and un-American attitude toward labor that has been their policy in the past can not last, are "stocking up" in the expectation of labor troubles which they have invited by their labor attitude and policies.

Employment in the automobile industry increased 23 per cent in January, according to the Michigan Department of Labor and Industry. The increase in December was 19 per cent. This enabled employment as a whole in the state to increase 16 per cent in January.

Factory payrolls in Michigan in December were \$35,530,952 and increased to \$41,548,460 in January. The cost of living also went up.

According to the American Federation of Labor Monthly Survey of Business, automobile production in January was nearly 100 per cent greater than in the same month last year. In the meantime the purchasing power of the country has increased only a little, in no way justifying the huge increase in auto production.

### GAELIC RADIO MAN WANTED

The government of the Irish Free State is experiencing difficulty in finding a man to fill a job which, in addition to cultural and radio knowledge, also requires ability to handle Gaelic. Although the job carries a salary of \$4500 a year it has gone begging. Applicants, one of whom was from the United States, were reported to have satisfied the test for culture and radio information but were unable to fulfill the Gaelic requirements.



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Heated Grandstand  
Admission—10c for Charity  
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